

**SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 24 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The Mach-Zehnder interferometer is a multi/demultiplexing circuit with uniform frequency period as will be described below. The two optical output powers of the Mach-Zehnder interferometer are given by the following expressions.

$$[|A|^2 = |A_0|^2 \sin^2(\varphi/2)] \quad \underline{|A|^2 = |A_0|^2 \sin^2(\xi/2)} \quad (1)$$

$$[|B|^2 = |A_0|^2 \cos^2(\varphi/2)] \quad \underline{|B|^2 = |A_0|^2 \cos^2(\xi/2)} \quad (2)$$

where  $A_0$  is the intensity of light input to one of the input ports, and  $[\phi]$   $\xi$  is the phase given by the optical delay line.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 7 of page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Using the relationship of  $f = c/\lambda$ ,  $[\phi]$   $\xi$  is given by the following expression.

$$[\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n \Delta L = \frac{2\pi n \Delta L}{c} f_m] \quad \underline{\xi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n \Delta L = \frac{2\pi n \Delta L}{c} f_m} \quad (3)$$

where  $n$  is a refractive index,  $\Delta L$  is a path length difference,  $f$  is a frequency,  $c$  is the speed of light,  $\lambda$  is the wavelength, and  $m$  is an integer.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 25 of page 27 with the following amended paragraph:

The embodiments of the present invention will now be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the following description, an "optical multi/demultiplexing device" refers to a circuit configured by optical couplers and an optical delay lines device; a "phase generating device" refers to a device for generating a phase  $[[\phi]] \Phi$ ; and a "phase generating optical coupler" refers to a circuit functioning as the phase generating device and optical coupler multi/demultiplexing device.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 18 of page 33 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, when carrying out an approximation using a quadratic polynomial, the curve of Fig. 9 is approximated as follows by the phase  $[[\phi]] \Psi$  as a result of a multiple regression analysis.

$$[[\Phi \cong 8.12 \times 10^{-6} \lambda^2 - 0.025\lambda + 19.2]] \quad \underline{\Psi \cong 8.12 \times 10^{-6} \lambda^2 - 0.025\lambda + 19.2} \quad (7)$$

It is obvious that the polynomial used is not limited to the quadratic function or a function of a higher order, and any desired function can be used for the approximation. For example, the approximation using a Gaussian function gives the following phase correction amount  $[[\phi]] \Psi$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [[\Phi \cong 0.122 - \frac{37.94}{186.5\sqrt{0.5\pi}} \exp\left[\frac{-2(x - 1539.54)^2}{186.5^2}\right]]] \\ \underline{\Psi \cong 0.122 - \frac{37.94}{186.5\sqrt{0.5\pi}} \exp\left[\frac{-2(x - 1539.54)^2}{186.5^2}\right]} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 6 of page 43 with the following amended paragraph:

The least square approximation was used to optimize the phase  $[[\phi]]$   $\Psi$  needed to compensate for the deviation between the uniform wavelength period and uniform frequency period:

$$[[\phi \cong 8.12 \times 10^{-6} \lambda^2 - 0.025\lambda + 19.2]] \quad \underline{\Psi \cong 8.12 \times 10^{-6} \lambda^2 - 0.025\lambda + 19.2}$$